

From: [Coomber, Robert](#)
To: [O'Grady, John](#); [Morrison, Denise](#); [Tim Seidman](#); [McBride, William](#); [Mills, Lesley](#); [Osemwengie, Lantis](#); [Sims, Mark](#); [Oliver, Leah](#)
Cc: [Teichman, Kevin](#); [Corbett, Krysti](#); [Leopard, Matthew](#); [Doolan, Stephanie](#)
Subject: RE: EPA Plan to Increase Access to Results of EPA-Funded Scientific Research
Date: Wednesday, May 30, 2018 10:21:00 AM
Attachments: [Training Wkgrp Union Update June v2.pptx](#)

Good Morning Union Representatives:

Earlier this year, Kevin Teichman, co-chair of EPA's Public Access Forum (Forum), gave us a presentation on the "EPA Plan to Increase Access to Results of EPA-Funded Scientific Research." This plan addresses making EPA scientific research publications and the data underlying them accessible to the public free of charge. The plan has already been implemented across ORD, and the ORD unions were briefed at that time. As part of his presentation, Kevin mentioned that the Forum would be seeking comments from EPA Union representatives on the training materials the Forum now proposes to use across the rest of the Agency.

On June 14th, 2:00 pm EDT, Kevin and Bob Hetes, chair of the Forum's Training Workgroup, will give a presentation on the Forum's training materials related to making EPA intramural scientific research publications accessible to the public. Attached please find Kevin and Bob's presentation, which includes hyperlinks (see Slide 8) to the Forum's website, Awareness Video, "landing page," and job aid developed to assist EPA scientific researchers. Kevin and Bob ask that you access these training materials on the EPA intranet and come to the June 14th meeting with any comments you may have.

Please note that this briefing does not restart any bargaining obligations. Kevin and Bob said they would provide this information and additional opportunity to discuss, so they are doing so. Please look for a meeting invitation from me with more logistical details.

Regards,

Bob

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From: Coomber, Robert

Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 5:37 PM

To: O'Grady, John <Ogrady.Johnj@epa.gov>; Morrison, Denise <Morrison.Denise@epa.gov>; Tim Seidman <Tim.Seidman@NTEU.ORG>; McBride, William <McBride.William@epa.gov>; Mills, Lesley <Mills.Lesley@epa.gov>; Pitchford, Ann <Pitchford.Ann@epa.gov>; Sims, Mark <Sims.Mark@epa.gov>; Oliver, Leah <Oliver.Leah@epa.gov>

Cc: Teichman, Kevin <Teichman.Kevin@epa.gov>; Corbett, Krysti <Corbett.Krysti@epa.gov>; Leopard, Matthew <Leopard.Matthew@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: EPA Plan to Increase Access to Results of EPA-Funded Scientific Research

Dear Union Presidents,

I am writing to follow up on our notice regarding EPA's plan to increase access to results of EPA-funded scientific research. The Plan requires the Agency to begin transferring peer reviewed final manuscripts from EPA-funded research to PubMed Central (PMC) by the end of 2018. This includes final manuscripts that have at least one EPA author.

Here is some more explanation from Kevin Teichman, who will be conducting the briefing:

To put this new requirement in context, all Federal agencies that fund \$100 million or more of scientific research are required to make their scientific journal publications publicly available no later than twelve months after journal acceptance. From the public's perspective, making the research of Federally-funded research available free of charge ensures these results are available to all. From a scientist's perspective, sharing research results promotes wide distribution of the scientist's work and provides well deserved recognition that can lead to advancement.

To implement this requirement, the Science and Technology Policy Council (STPC) established the Public Access Forum (Forum), consisting of representatives from across the Agency and co-chaired by ORD and OEI. The Forum has been working with PubMed Central, so that EPA peer reviewed final manuscripts can be deposited in PMC. ORD is already fulfilling this requirement using its STICS database (after involvement with relevant ORD unions).

The Forum now plans to extend this requirement to all EPA programs and regions. The Forum's Publications Workgroup has developed an implementation plan to meet this Agency-specific, government-wide goal, and accompanying training materials are currently being developed.

Kevin Teichman and Matt Leopard, the Forum cochairs, would like to brief EPA Union Representatives on Tuesday, February 13, 2018 from 2pm-3pm (the January date got pushed back due largely to the shut-down) to provide you with additional background on this effort. I will follow up with a meeting invitation.

Thank you for your consideration, and please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Regards,

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From: Coomber, Robert

Sent: Monday, December 18, 2017 12:23 PM

To: O'Grady, John <Ogrady.Johnj@epa.gov>; 'Morrison, Denise' <Morrison.Denise@epa.gov>; 'Tim Seidman' <Tim.Seidman@NTEU.ORG>; McBride, William <McBride.William@epa.gov>; Mills, Lesley <Mills.Lesley@epa.gov>; Pitchford, Ann <Pitchford.Ann@epa.gov>; Sims, Mark <Sims.Mark@epa.gov>; Oliver, Leah <Oliver.Leah@epa.gov>

Cc: Teichman, Kevin <Teichman.Kevin@epa.gov>; Corbett, Krysti <Corbett.Krysti@epa.gov>

Subject: EPA Plan to Increase Access to Results of EPA-Funded Scientific Research

Dear Union Presidents,

Below please find a note from Kevin Teichman, Senior Science Advisor in the Office of Research and Development. The letter explains the Agency's intent to implement the "EPA Plan to Increase Access to Results of EPA-Funded Scientific Research." This plan has already been implemented across ORD (relevant unions were noticed at that time).

Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Regards,

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The "EPA Plan to Increase Access to Results of EPA-Funded Scientific Research" requires the Agency to begin transferring peer reviewed final manuscripts from EPA-funded research to PubMed Central (PMC) in 2018. This includes final manuscripts that have at least one EPA author.

To put this new requirement in context, all Federal agencies that fund \$100 million or more of scientific research are required to make their scientific journal publications publicly available no later than twelve months after journal acceptance. From the public's perspective, making the research of Federally-funded research available free of charge ensures these results are available to all. From a scientist's perspective, sharing research results promotes wide distribution of the scientist's work

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The Forum now plans to extend this requirement to all EPA programs and regions. The Forum's Publications Workgroup is developing an implementation plan to meet this Agency-specific, government-wide goal, and accompanying training materials are currently being developed as well. The timeline for rolling out the requirement will be discussed at the briefing.

We will schedule the briefing for the first week of January, 2018. We look forward to both meeting with you to provide additional background on this effort and hearing your thoughts on how best to share this new requirement with our employees.